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COURTNEY BRUMMER , Staff Writer

07/04/2004

In an effort to help investigations into missing persons reports, the Council Bluffs Police Department has implemented a new tool on their Web site: www.cbpolice.org.

The new missing persons page details active missing persons reports going back more than a decade.

Information about a missing person such as their physical description and where they were last seen can be obtained by clicking on their name.

Sgt. Pat Norris said the goal behind the page is to keep the public updated about cases of people reported missing.

"In my opinion, this is just an extra effort we can put into these cases," he said. "It's more to the benefit of the families of people that are missing than the public as a whole."

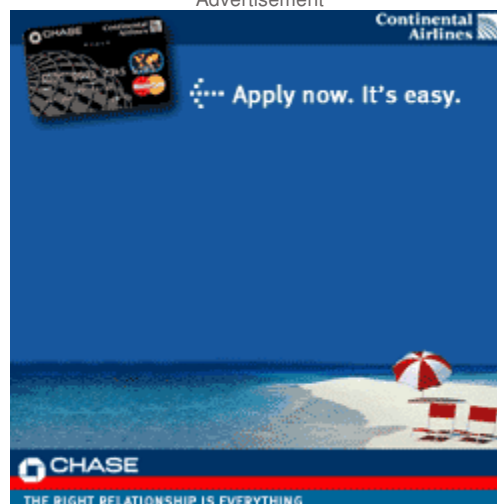
Norris added that the majority of names listed on the site are cases of juvenile runaways and are considered more of an "attempt to locate" case than a missing person one.

"Ninety-nine percent of our cases are voluntary disappearances, runaways," he said. "But they usually have friends or family who want to know where the heck they are, so this is a service we can provide to them."

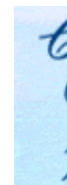
Norris said the site will be updated on a regular basis and cases that remain active will remain on the page.

"It's important that we do as much as we can to get these kids home or to a place where they are safe," he said. "We don't want these kids to get lost in the shuffle."

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